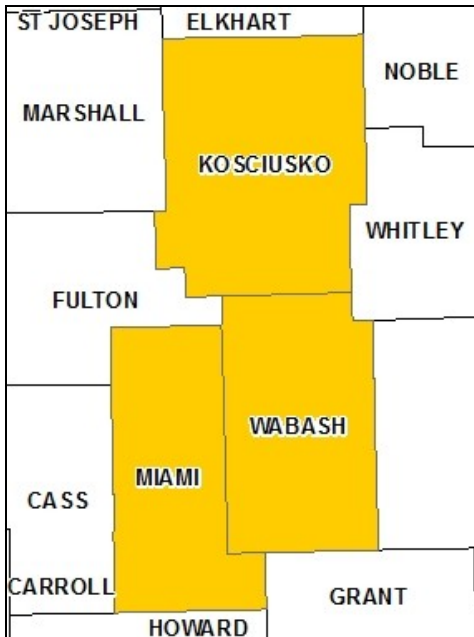




2015 Clean Water Indiana Grant Program

Indiana State Department of Agriculture
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Indianapolis, IN 46204
www.in.gov/isda



LEAD DISTRICT: MIAMI
COLLABORATING DISTRICTS:
KOSCIUSKO, WABASH
PROJECT NAME: TECHNICAL
ASSISTANCE IN THE MIDDLE EEL
WATERSHED
PROJECT DATES: 5/1/2015-4/30/2017
PROJECT AMOUNT: \$75,000

Purpose: Provide technical assistance to the Middle Eel River Watershed

Technical assistance is required as it relates to soil and water conservation and water quality of the Middle Eel River watershed (MERI). Since 2008 Miami County, Kosciusko County, and Wabash County SWCDs have been an integral part of a comprehensive effort to improve water quality of the Middle Eel River through partnerships with Manchester University, NRCS, Indiana DNR, IDEM, and a diverse group of land owners and community partners.

In an effort to continue the effectiveness of on-going efforts, that were established from the 2012 CWI grant received, we propose to increase technical assistance to increase efficiency for district conservationists and also our watershed coordinator. We believe this proposed holistic approach to soil and water conservation and water quality monitoring will serve and has served as a model for other SWCDs as they search for protocols and direction that may help standardize efforts across watersheds.

PARTNERS FOR THE PROJECT INCLUDE:
MANCHESTER UNIVERSITY, NRCS, INDIANA DNR, IDEM



Manchester University will provide support with educational efforts, such as river clean-up events.

The Clean Water Indiana (CWI) Program was established to provide financial assistance to landowners and conservation groups. The financial assistance supports the implementation of conservation practices which will reduce nonpoint sources of water pollution through education, technical assistance, training, and cost sharing programs.

The CWI fund is administered by the Division of Soil Conservation under the direction of the State Soil Conservation Board. The CWI Program is responsible for providing local matching funds as well as grants for sediment and nutrient reduction projects through Indiana's Soil and Water Conservation Districts. CWI also contributes critical state matching funds for Indiana's Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program, an initiative which utilizes federal funds to encourage landowners to conserve environmentally sensitive land.

Furthermore, the CWI Program has supported the Conservation Cropping Systems Initiative which focuses on management systems approach to crop production which results in improved soil and water quality as well as profitability on Indiana cropland.

During state fiscal year 2015, the State Soil Conservation Board awarded 14 Clean Water Indiana grants totaling \$1,020,900. Grant funds can be used for Cost Share Incentives, Technical Assistance, and Adult Education (maximum of \$1,000 per year).